

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 6, 14-62, 64, 65 and 67, without prejudice.

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

3. (Amended) An isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide which is a soluble receptor and which is encoded by a nucleic acid which is identifiable with a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) probe selected from group consisting of a probe for clone 7 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:42 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:43), a probe for clone 11 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:44 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:45), and both clone 7 and clone 11.
4. (Amended) The leptin receptor of claim 3, which is encoded by a nucleic acid which is identifiable with a PCR probe selected from the group consisting of a probe for clone S14 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:51 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:52); and a probe for clone S3 (forward primer SEQ ID NO:53 and reverse primer SEQ ID NO:54).
5. (Amended) An isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide which is OB-Re (SEQ ID NO:10), or allelic variants thereof.
7. (Amended) An isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide of amino acids 28-805 of SEQ ID NO: 10, or allelic variants thereof.
8. (Amended) An isolated leptin receptor (OB-R) polypeptide which is a soluble receptor.
66. (Amended) A body appearance improving cosmetic composition for modulating the body weight of an individual comprising a soluble leptin receptor of claim 8 or 9, and an acceptable carrier.
68. (Amended) The leptin receptor of any one of Claims 3-5 and 7-9 which is a murine leptin receptor.